(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, a comprehensive notification GSR No.664 (E) on nutritional labeling has been published by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 19.9.2008, which will become effective from the 19th of March, 2009.

Audit of medical equipments

621. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical equipments, including those installed in operation theatres, testing labs, life support systems, etc. at Central Government Hospitals like AIIMS, New Delhi, PGI, Chandigarh and others, are subject to audit at regular intervals;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the audit parameters;

(c) the details of audit of equipments last carried out showing operational deficiencies etc., wherever detected during the exercise, hospital-wise;

(d) whether steps have been taken in response thereto;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) At AIIMS, the audit of account including all the areas namely stores, procurement, administrative matters, pay & allowances, etc., is carried out yearly by Statutory Auditor *i.e.* Director General of Audit Central Revenue, New Delhi and compliances of audit objection are made promptly and regularly. However audit of medical equipments as such is not carried out separately. All the equipments are under annual maintenance contract and any malfunctioning, if detected, is rectified by the supplier/maintenance agent promptly.

Similarly, audit of the PGIMER, Chandigarh is carried out by Principal Accountant General's Office, UT Chandigarh, which also covers the medical equipments component. There is no specific Audit observation made by the Audit regarding operational deficiencies of equipments in the Institute.

In so far as Central Government Hospitals like Safdarjang Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi are concerned, the medical equipments are not subjected to Audit at regular intervals. However all equipments installed in operation theatres, testing labs, life support systems, etc. are put on Annual Maintenance Contract and are regularly got inspected. As and when any operational deficiency is found the same is rectified promptly.

Calibration of hospital equipments

622. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mechanical, electrical and electronic equipments installed in hospitals, including those in operation theaters and laboratories, etc., are needed to be mandatorily calibrated at prescribed frequencies for their proper functioning;